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(c) whether the amendment was made solely for the purpose of including the post of Joint Director of Industries and Commerce in Category I of the Madras Industries Service?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (a) Yes, Sir.

" (b) Consultation with the Madras Public Service Commission was not necessary.

" (c) The amendment was made to include in the special rules for the Madras Industries Service the post of Joint Director of Industries and the conditions of service governing that post."

SRI P. RANGASWAMI REDDIAR :—" Did the Madras Public Service Commission point out in their report that prior consultation was necessary under the Constitution? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" The Government considered that prior consultation was not necessary."

Opening of a dispensary at Pazhayangadi, North Malabar.

* 1185 Q.—SRI M. CHADAYAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state whether any action has been taken on the memorandum of the public at Pazhayangadi, North Malabar, about the opening of a dispensary at the place?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" ' Yes ', Sir.

The memorandum was sent in original to the Special Officer, District Board, Malabar, for necessary action."

SRI M. CHADAYAN :—" പഴയങ്ങാടിയുടെ അടുത്തു കിടക്കുന്ന നാലു വില്ലേജുകളിലെ നാല്പതിനായിരത്തിലധികം വരുന്ന ജനങ്ങൾ വൈദ്യസഹായമില്ലാതെ കഷ്ടപ്പെടുന്ന വിവരം ഗവർമ്മേണ്ടിന്നറിയാമോ ? അറിയാമെങ്കിൽ ഗവർമ്മേണ്ടു് എന്തു നടപടിയാണു് എടുക്കാനുദ്ദേശിക്കുന്നതു് ? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" The provision of medical facilities in rural areas is the responsibility of the concerned local body."

SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR :—" The primary concern for the health of the citizens of the State is that of the Madras State and not of the district board, and in view of the well-known fact that the Malabar District Board is absolutely and utterly bankrupt, is it not shelving the responsibility of the Government supply to send it on for necessary action to the Special Officer of the District Board instead of tackling the problem at State-level? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" It is up to responsible public men like the hon. Member Sri Krishna Ayyar to see that the Malabar District Board does not run into such heavy deficit."

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SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" The Hon. Minister stated that he had passed on the memorandum to the Special Officer at Kozhikode. May I know from him whether he has made any recommendation on the memorandum to start a dispensary at Pazhayangadi? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" To open a dispensary requires a recurring expenditure of Rs. 9,000 for the cost of medicines, establishment, etc., and a non-recurring expenditure of Rs. 40,000 for the building. The Special Officer has said, ' We are heavily in deficit and we cannot undertake the work.' "

Area of operation of the South Arcot Electricity Distribution Company.

* 1186 *Q.*—SRI K. PARTHASARATHY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state the area of operation of the licensee, South Arcot Electricity Distribution Company, Limited?

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" About 1,300 square miles, i.e., Tindivanam, Villupuram, Cuddalore and Chidambaram taluks in South Arcot district."

SRI K. PARTHASARATHY :—" From the answer given by the Hon. Minister it is apparent that more than half the district is outside the area of operation of the licensee. So, will the Hon. Minister be pleased to bestow more attention on extension of electricity in the areas outside the operation of the licensee? "

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" The request of my hon. Friend will be considered."

Starting of a Regional Coconut Research Station in Malabar.

* 1187 *Q.*—SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) what was the estimated financial commitments involved in the proposals of the Indian Central Coconut Committee, Ernakulam, to start a Regional Coconut Research Station in Malabar; and

(*b*) whether the proposals contained any promise of assistance from the Central Government?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) The estimated cost of the Scheme for the establishment of a Regional Coconut Research Station in Malabar district was Rs. 81,700 recurring and Rs. 2,67,400 non-recurring for a period of five years against an anticipated receipt of Rs. 70,000. The